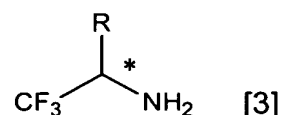


Amendments to the Claims:

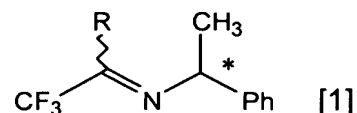
The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

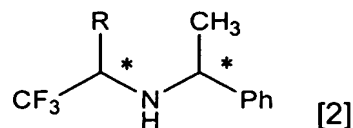
Claim 1. (Original) A process for producing an optically active 1-alkyl-substituted 2,2,2-trifluoroethylamine represented by the formula [3],
[Chem. 18]



[in the formula R represents a lower alkyl group of a carbon number of 1 to 6 and * represents an asymmetric carbon] or its salt by subjecting an optically active imine represented by the formula [1],
[Chem. 16]



[in the formula R represents a lower alkyl group of a carbon number of 1 to 6, Ph represents a phenyl group, a wave line represents E configuration or Z configuration, and * represents an asymmetric carbon] to an asymmetric reduction under hydrogen atmosphere using a metal catalyst of Group VIII to convert it into an optically active secondary amine represented by the formula [2],
[Chem. 17]



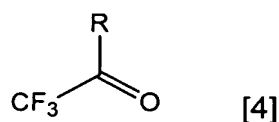
[in the formula R represents a lower alkyl group of a carbon number of 1 to 6, Ph represents a phenyl group, and * represents an asymmetric carbon] and then by subjecting the secondary amine or its salt to hydrogenolysis.

Claim 2. (Original) A production process according to claim 1, which is characterized in that the asymmetric reduction is conducted under a temperature condition of not higher than 10°C.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) A production process according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein R of the optically active imine represented by the formula [1], the optically active secondary amine represented by the formula [2] and the optically active 1-alkyl-substituted 2,2,2-trifluoroethylamine represented by the formula [3] is a methyl group.

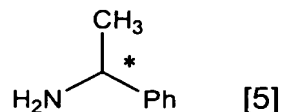
Claim 4. (Currently amended) A production process according to ~~any one of claim 1 to claim 3~~, wherein the optically active imine represented by the formula [1] is an optically active imine obtained by subjecting a trifluoromethyl alkyl ketone represented by the formula [4]

[Chem. 19]



[in the formula R represents a lower alkyl group of a carbon number of 1 to 6] and an optically active 1-phenylethylamine represented by the formula [5]

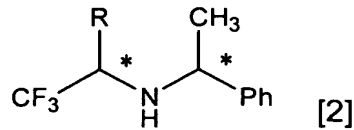
[Chem. 20]



[in the formula Ph represents a phenyl group, and * represents an asymmetric carbon] to dehydration and condensation in the presence of an acid catalyst.

Claim 5. (Original) A purification process characterized in that an optically active secondary amine represented by the formula [2]

[Chem. 21]



[in the formula R represents a lower alkyl group of a carbon number of 1 to 6, Ph represents a phenyl group, and * represents an asymmetric carbon] is converted into its salt, followed by a recrystallization purification.

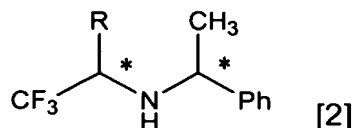
Claim 6. (Original) A purification process according to claim 5, wherein R of the optically active secondary amine represented by the formula [2] is a methyl group, and the salt is hydrobromide.

Claim 7. (Original) A purification process according to claim 5, wherein R of the optically active secondary amine represented by the formula [2] is a methyl group, and the salt is optically active 10-camphorsulfonate.

Claim 8. (Currently amended) A process for producing an optically active 1-alkyl-substituted 2,2,2-trifluoroethylamine represented by the formula [3] or its salt, according to ~~any one of claim 1 to claim 4~~, which is characterized in that, after an optically active secondary amine represented by the formula [2] is obtained by a production process according to ~~any one of claim 1 to claim 4~~, the secondary amine is purified by a purification process according to ~~any one of claim 5 to claim 7~~.

Claim 9. (Original) An optically active secondary amine represented by the formula [2]

[Chem. 22]



[in the formula R represents a lower alkyl group of a carbon number of 1 to 6, Ph represents a phenyl group, and * represents an asymmetric carbon].

Claim 10. (Original) An optically active secondary amine according to claim 9, wherein R of the optically active secondary amine represented by the formula [2] is a methyl group.

Claim 11. (Original) A hydrobromide of the optically active secondary amine according to claim 9, wherein R of the optically active secondary amine represented by the formula [2] is a methyl group.

Claim 12. (Original) An optically active 1-camphorsulfonate of the optically active secondary amine according to claim 9, wherein R of the optically active secondary amine represented by the formula [2] is a methyl group.